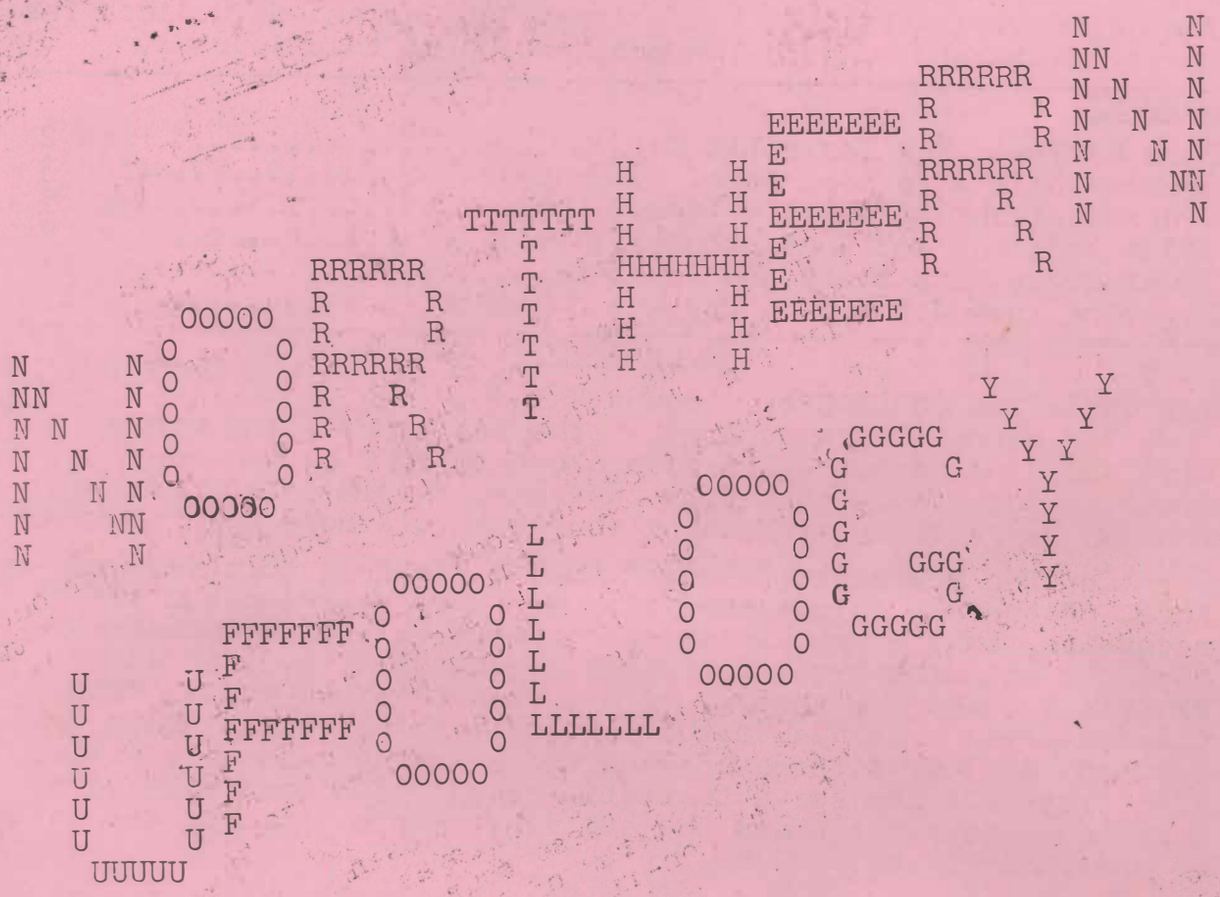

"NORTHERN UFOLOGY"

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"NORTHERN UFOLOGY" is published by the Northern Unidentified Flying Objects Network (NUFON), which is a communications and liason medium for all independent UFO organisations and researchers in the north of Britain. "Northern Ufology" is a journal for detailed views, reviews, research reports and sighting reports. Opinions expressed herein do not, necessarily,reflect upon the network as a whole.

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The editor would like to thank Jenny Randles and Nick Simon for their invaluable help in the preparation of this journal.

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BOOK REVIEW.

THE INVISIBLE COLLEGE by Jacques Vallee.

You cannot learn much about the sea by counting waves, similarly you do not learn much about the UFO phenomenon by counting saucers. What a pity that more people do not realise that 25 years of counting has brought little more than statistics.

In "The Invisible College" Vallee has come to terms with a facet of the UFO enigma that many workers are reluctant to recognise, and fewer have experience of. Vallee hypothesizes that the phenomenon may represent a control system. As an example he uses the analogy of a thermostat in a house. "The thermostat is a mechanism that stabilisès the relationship between our body temperature and the changing weather outside. Similarly UFOs may serve to stabilise the reationship between mans' conscious needs and the evolving complexities of the world he must understand."

A fair percentage of the book is spent discussing the case of Uri Geller. I realise that this may be a signal to some to reject the book, but these people should reconsider. Vallee does not discuss the abilities that Geller may or may not possess. In a refreshing manner he examines the motives and consequences of such cases. To quote Valle again, "The entire story is absurd yet disturbing."

The facets of the subject that are causing a change in the direction of thinking are listed by Vallee as being fourfold and he devotes a chapter to each of these four elements. These include the observation of patterns of belief amongst those who claim to be in contact with non-human intelligences, and the growth of such organisations as UMMO, and here I might add APEN.

In my opinion the Invisible College represents one of the most interesting aspects of the phenomenon and is written in a manner which is easily followed through what, at times, must have been a difficult theory to present. As with the previous book "Passport to Magonia", "The Invisible College" is a bold step forward, and such a step, irrespective of ones personal viewpoint should be supported.

"The Invisible College" is published by E. P. Dutton & Co., Inc., New York at a U.K. price of about £5.80 and was reviewed by Peter Warrington of MUFORA.

LOOKING BACK - TO LOOK AHEAD.

When I decided to put pen to paper to crystallise my thoughts on ufology I found that there was so much to write that, in order to prevent me from writing a book on the subject, I would have to construct them around a theme. Consequently, please forgive a little self indulgence as I look back at my nine years in ufology to see what I have learnt.

My first ufological activities date back to 1967, when I first subscribed to Flying Saucer Review. I was fortunate that this publication provided my introduction to the subject, because its never ending stream of interesting material kept me going as I existed in the realms of 'passive' ufology. Supplemented with the occasional paperback it fulfilled my needs while my more active involvement lay with 'O' and 'A' levels and other mundane pursuits.

This clearly shows, I think,the importance of FSR and the paperback market as the breeding ground. 'Active' ufologists do not just come about, they have to be cultivated. This period of 2-3 years when the subject simmers should be enhanced as much as possible. A different system is needed to cope with this aspect, but it must be a middle-road. It must avoid sensationalism and serve to present the realities of modern ufology. We need to attract the right kind of people into the 'active' side and this should not be under a false pretence.

In 1969 when I joined BUFORA I was content to languish for several years in stage two of the 'passive' ufologist - that of the group member who takes no positive part in anything. At that time the subscription was a mere £1.50 (it is now £5), so to a student feeling rich on a grant that was nothing. Nowadays the tenor has altered. Few people can afford to pay something for nothing-and BUFORA would be the first to admit that unless you get involved in its activities, nothing is just what you get.

By early 1973 I had reached the point where I had made a commitment. I had decided I wanted to be 'active', so I met with the then BUFORA RIC and said I would like to investigate reports. I was given a little card with my photograph on it and that was the last I heard. Fortunately I was able to do some investigating on my own. In that Spring there was a minor flap around Winsford, Cheshire. At the time I was teaching in a school close by and I was blooded in all types of reports including hoaxes.

Equally fortunate for my ufological future, my continued complaints about BUFORA's problems brought a request for me to summarise reports for the BUFORA Journal. So I was now becoming 'active' and was just about seen through the 1973 subscription renewal. All of this highlights the need for a generalised UFO structure in this country, but more of that later.

Still dissatisfied with BUFORA's lack of effectiveness on a local level I responded to an advert., in the summer 1973 FSR for a new national group called the Flying Saucer Investigation Team. Possibly this inane name should have warned me, but I was soon to learn that to attempt to create a rival to BUFORA because of one's unhappiness with them only serves to duplicate the problems. Active ufologists are thin on the ground in the UK, and there is no room for a series of 'national' groups. Though it took almost a year for me to realise this, I now feel that the best hope is to try to improve what we have already got.

FSIT eventually led to a group called Probe, principally through the linkage of the semi-organised FSIT units in Manchester and Nottingham. (The Nottingham FSIT branch has become the extremely well organised Nottingham UFO Investigation Society). Probe at first continued the attempt at a new national group, but its grand ideas, which were later transferred to the appallingly-named Union of Northern Observers, were doomed to failure. It was only later in 1974 when UNO became NUFON and began to transform

LOOKING BACK - TO LOOK AHEAD Cont....

into its current structure, as a loose network of northern ufologists,working with BUFORA (and subsequently Contact UK), that the correct balance was finally achieved.

Where does all this lead us? It shows the various deadends that exist in-trying to reconstitute ufology, and perhaps illustrates where we must go. Firstly let us look at our needs:-

1) A need to cultivate 'passive' ufologists.
2) An organisation to allow such people to develop their own activities when ready.
3) An organisation to proliferate local organisations and investigation.
4) An organisation to allow the seriously active people to develop research ideas.
5) A bridgehead between the amateur community and the world of science.

To my mind at the present moment there are part fulfillments of all five of these needs. All that we need to do is to recognise this and to develop these parts into a complete fulfillment.

BUFORA represents 1 and 2 quite well. By providing a book selling service (through Lionel Beer), producing a regular journal and holding lecture meetings (at present in London, but being expanded to the rest of the UK). If BUFORA can realise its potential in this area and concentrate on being a cultivation medium it will satisfy the needs. FSR acting as a back-up will show the real scientific methodology of ufology.

Considering 3, this is where NUFON has its major part to play. Investigation can best be done on a local level and by organised groups. A national organisation will always struggle to do investigation thoroughly because it is based upon individual investigators spread over a wide area. Groups have a more coherent method. Investigation does not stop because 'x' is away, as there is always 'y' to take over. Reports are gathered more easily because it is easier for a group to become known than for an individual, and even a groups' 'passive' members can bring in sighting reports. Consequently, the local group system should be actively encouraged as well as regionalised networks to gell these groups together within a closely defined area. It is a great pity that NUFON is the only such network. My hope is that others will blossom into existence. All of this would form a pattern over the whole country, working with BUFORA to encourage the 'passive' people to become active by the results of its work and assisting with regional activities such as lectures.

Number 4 exists in several differing forms at present. It is the most difficult to put together, but there are signs that it is on the way. Aside from the individuals within NUFON, who are working through research projects such as the Northern England Historical Catalogue, there is the BUFORA research and investigations section (or R&I as it is affectionately called) and, of course, Contact's Data-Research side. The BUFORA R&I has a separate sub-committee of seven members, but includes people from outside the committee, and even outside BUFORA ! Over the past year its strength has grown. It was,during this period, directly responsible for the successful conference at Stoke in May 1975 and the publication of an investigators handbook. Over the next year it will be producing a report on the Vehicle Interference Project, which is already in draft form and is a very thorough piece of research into electro-magnetic effect cases. Also along with UFOSIS (one of NUFON's most active associates), it will stage a further research conference in Birgingham in November, 1976. In addition work is proceeding on Project Trace, which is a full scale development of a landing contingency plan. Contact are currently working on several catalogues, including the Northern England catalogue with NUFON. For example a catalogue of photographic

LOOKING BACK - TO LOOK AHEAD Cont....

cases is already part complete, and they are working on a welsh catalogue with the Belgian group GESAG.

From this it can perhaps be seen that if these efforts can be seen to be united, not necessarily under the banner of one organisation, but certainly in spirit, then there is ample scope for a successful fulfillment of this element of our system.

Turning finally to 5, we can see the possibility of this bridgehead appearing in the form of the British UFO Documentation Centre (BUDC). The BUDC was formed in May, 1976 by Alan Fossey, an independent ufologist, and has already won support from some scientists. Its aims are to allow scientists access to the 'hard' data without them having to take part in the 'rat-race' of present day amateur ufology. It does not aim to exclude the amateurs, but rather to use the best of their talents in this differing context. It could succeed, and I for one will do what I can to help it do so. Of course, it is realised that it is a very difficult task. Scientists will not be convinced overnight, but it <u>can</u> succeed if we work towards remodelling the amateur image so that it can provide the data in a proper state, so that science will be unable to refuse to at least look at it. Hence the BUDC <u>must</u> have all our support.

This is an exciting time for british ufology. These next few months will decide whether we pick up the challenge and thrash out a really workable system. NUFON is planning its Spring 1977 convention around the theme "The Future of British Ufology". It could prove an important weekend when talk is transformed into action. Let us aim for that.

Of course, I have learned even more than this from my time in ufology. Perhaps just as importantly my ideas about <u>what</u> we are investigating have altered dramatically. No more can the 'space-ship' solution be taken as literally valid. I have some fair ideas about where the truth could now lie (using the word 'lie' in both its meanings). Still that is another story.

Jenny Randles.
Secretary, NUFON.

<u>WIDER HORIZONS</u>.

Speculation on the extra-terrestrial origin of the Unidentified Flying Object (UFO) at the very outset of our modern perception of the UFO phenomenon, has meant that we have been overwhelmed by the thought that UFOs are visiting spacecraft.

There are many reasons why the extra-terrestrial concept has been given overwhelming importance. Since we can visit the moon - albeit on a very limited basis at present - it only needs one further step of reasoning to conclude that if we can do it, other beings on far off planets can do the same. The next step is to reason that there must be beings who have developed a technology that is so far in advance of our own that they could easily send spacecraft to Earth for exploration similar to our own lunar expeditions. So far no reasonable person can argue with our chain of logic. No one can say that there is not a race of beings far more advanced, technologically, than we are. Indeed the chances are that there are possibly a few thousand civilisations in advance of us in this galaxy, and an infinite number in the whole universe.

People are seeing unexplainable objects in the sky of this planet, they have the appearance of vehicles of some unknown kind, therefore the conclusion is that they are the spacecraft of an advanced civilisation.

If UFOs are spacecraft in the sense that we understand in the terms of our own technology i.e. physical robots or vehicles, why is it we have obtained no positive evidence? If they are mechanical "nuts and bolts" craft, why is it that we have no really first class photographs? Why is it that we have no known UFO artifacts?

WIDER HORIZONS Cont....

Many ideas have been put forward to explain where UFOs emanate from, however, I do not think that people interested in the UFO phenomenon have really strayed very far from the extra-terrestrial hypothesis which can be regarded as "home ground".

So what other direction can we take UFO research into, since it is obvious that we require a fresh viewpoint if any progress is to be made in this study. My own suggestion is that we examine the UFO mystery in the same light as other unknown or paranormal phenomena, although there are some obvious dangers. By just forgetting for once that we are dealing with some form of machine or vehicle, and by extending investigations and research into sightings perhaps some progress might be made. By extending investigations and research I mean that we look at reports of ghosts, phantoms, curiosities, poltergeists and other related stories and legends, taking in all the aspects of folklore.

"What has all this to do with UFOs?" you might ask. Perhaps nothing in a literal sense, but past studies have shown quite a correlation between the paranormal literature and the UFO literature. One such study is "Passport to Magonia" by Jacques Vallee, which has been followed up by writings in the "Metempiral (ex Merseyside) UFO-Bulletin" and "Flying Saucer Review".

Most investigators of the UFO phenomenon restrict their activities to a certain geographical area, so an obvious extension of their work would be for them to research the folklore, history and contempory strange phenomena relevant to their area. This basic research can reveal a lot of new information and contacts.

Local libraries, museums and newspaper offices are all a mine of useful information and there are many specialist organisations who can be of help. In Britain we have for instance the "Society for Psychical Research" and the "Folklore Society" both of which are highly respected. Also of aid is the "Parapsychical Laboratory" based in Wiltshire, which, like the other two organisations, publishes a journal along with the annual "Directory of Spontaneous Phenomena" giving a useful guide to British phenomena.

"The Complete Books of Charles Fort" are an excellent introduction to a whole range of strange and inexplicable phenomena. Charles Hoy Fort (1875-1932) was the first person in modern times to ever list things seen in the sky, which we would now call UFOs. He can be regarded as a modern pioneer of the unknown and his work is being continued by the "International Fortean Organisation" who publish the "INFO Journal". Since November 1973 Robert Rickard, the British representative of the "International Fortean Organisation" has published "The News", every issue of which is filled with unknown events reported throughout the world. "The News" has now (since June 1976) changed its title to the "Fortean Times" so that the title better describes the contents.

With the aid of these societies and their publications the UFO researcher is plunged into a vast sea of new ideas and concepts, along with even more sources of information at his/her disposal.

Another source of information is the UFO witness. Whilst interviewing a person who has reported seeing a UFO, it might be a good idea to ask if they know of any paranormal events in the area of their sighting, or whether he or she has experienced any such events in the past. Even if the information is regarded as irrelevant to the UFO investigator, it would be helpful if they would notify one of the above groups of any information they might obtain.

Doing all this research should give the UFO investigator a much wider knowledge of the unknown phenomena experienced in their area. His or her knowledge of the history and geography of the area should be greatly improved and the investigator will be all the more informed and experienced and will therefore be all

the more capable of dealing with the UFO witness.

Certainly after nearly thirty years of modern study we still know very little about the UFO phenomenon, a phenomenon which is offering us all a complex series of questions. An expansion of our own research or viewpoint cannot be a bad thing, if carried out in a serious manner.

Nigel Watson.
Scunthorpe UFO Research Society.

NOTE : The addresses of the above named societies and publications are available from the author at 1, Angerstein Road, Scunthorpe, DN17 2LZ, or from the editor.

UFONAUTS: WHO AND WHAT ARE THEY?

For years now ufologists have been preoccupied with the questions "Where do UFOs come from?" and "Why are they visiting us?", and many speculative papers, and even a few books, have been written about these intriguing aspects of the UFO problem. But, although those questions are undeniably important, hardly any literature has been published regarding "Who or what are the UFO occupants?" From that one surmises that the question has been consistently shelved as being too difficult to answer.

Perhaps the situation has arisen because ufologists have generally accepted ufo occupants - or ufonauts - as the owners and operators of the UFOs in which they travel, and are accordingly members of an alien race responsible for their design and manufacture. Although this seems to be a common assumption, careful appraisal of the known facts suggests that it is possibly quite fallacious.

In any speculative article such as this, it is necessary to consider possibilities for which little room exists in the more "fact-orientated" literature, and one of these concerns the gulf apparently separating man's intellectual level from that of the ufonauts. At every turn we find abundant evidence that UFOs originate from a very sophisticated technology, that must both mirror and influence the culture that developed it. If, therefore we can expect the intelligence clearly underlying the UFO phenomenon to function on a higher intellectual plane than modern man, so we must accept that its actions (as represented by UFO manoeuvres) and its reactions (as represented by the earthly activities of ufonauts) are <u>perfectly natural</u> relative to it, even though some of them may seem strange, even incomprehensible, to us. Most readers will recall episodes from the UFO record in which the ufonauts have engaged in seemingly pointless activities or reacted to various stimuli in a manner that, to us, appeared irrational or childish. These particular instances of ufonaut behaviour have puzzled several earlier writers.

We are thus faced with incongruities in the UFO record. On the one hand UFOs and many of their actions, and also those of the ufonauts, reflect an amazingly highly advanced and complex technology, while on the other hand ufonaut behaviour on certain occasions seems to have been almost childish.

Inevitably a study of ufonauts generates such questions as "Do all ufonauts share a common origin?" and "Are there several alien races visiting the Earth and, if so, do some of their representatives have childish mentalities?". The latter question, especially, raises concepts wherein a childish ufonaut mentality becomes incompatible with the advanced technology displayed by UFOs and their capabilities. Could this apparent childishness be an illusion? Are other interpretations possible? These and other related questions occupy the remainder of this paper.

While many ufonauts have been described as essentially human in appearance (e.g. those allegedly met by Adamski, Bethurum, Menger, et al), others appear to be considerably different (e.g. the

UFONAUTS: WHO AND WHAT ARE THEY? Cont....

hairy dwarf forms encountered at Petare, Venezuela, in 1954, and the giant entities at Childers, Australia, in 1969) and may include specially developed or bred creatures (e.g. the stump-like creature near Toledo, Oregon, in 1966). The most commomnly reported forms seem to be short statured beings having large crania and rather spindly limbs (e.g. the ufonauts seen by Maurice Masse in 1965 at Valensole, France, and at Gaffney, South Carolina, in the following year). In addition, there have also been reported a variety of other ufonauts that appear to possess a decidedly robot like performance (e.g. the smoke-belching entity featured in the Cisco Grove, California case of 1964, which, like the equally bizarre creature seen in 1952 at Flatwoods, West Virginia, was capable of floating in the air. The "mechanical men" sighted at Sawbill Bay, Ontario, in 1950, also seem to be robot forms. A cactus-like entity, that left marks on the ground as evidence of its passage, seen near Barcelona, Spain, in 1967, may also be a robot form or a specially bred creature akin to the stump-like things mentioned above).

Several writers have tried to classify ufonauts, Webb and Bloecher have divided them into three main categories which they call "dwarves", "normals" and "giants. None of the classifications attempted to date are really satisfactory, although it is worth noting that Webb and Bloecher observed that the "dwarves" operate mostly in pairs or singly and wear shiny silver coveralls often equipped with helmets; that the "normals" tend to operate in groups of three or more and tend to wear differently coloured suits, are apparently able to breath our air (although helmeted individuals have been seen) and are the types most frequently involved in abductions; and that the characteristics of the "giants" are too insufficiently well known for definite conclusions to be drawn.

Unfortunately all such classifications oversimplify the situation, for typical "dwarves" with beards are known (e.g. the Bebedouro entities encountered in May, 1969) that are <u>not</u> to be confused with the hairy dwarf types met with at Petare and other localities; and entities that otherwise appear to fall into the "normal" category are known whose legs are joined so that they move in a series of hops in a pogostick fashion (e.g. the three beings seen south of Lima, Peru, in 1947, and the creature encountered early one morning in August, 1955, by Ernest Studdart and a colleague in Bradford, Yorkshire). Certainly the situation is not as simple as some have made out.

Indeed the diversity of ufonauts is so wide that one concludes that either:-

1) each reported type represents a different race of beings - in which case a very large number of technologically advanced cultures exist and are visiting the Earth, or

2) that some (perhaps many) of the types are no more than subservient creatures, such as trained anthropoids or programmed robots that carry out certain predetermined tasks here, or

3) that all ufonaut types may be merely different forms of expression of an intelligence normally lacking a physical or corporate form, but capable of projecting itself into our consciousness in an endless variety of shapes and forms.

Let us consider these alternatives more closely. All are mind-boggling.

Alternative number one receives support from reports like that from Viamo, in Brazil, where, in January, 1968, a hat shaped object landed and disgorged two diffrrent types of occupants simmoultaneously. The aforementioned Cisco Grove case also featured two different types of entities, one of them apparently a robot form. Many further cases illustrative of consorting or co-operating different forms are known.

Number two really leads on from that above, although the

UFONAUTS: WHO AND WHAT ARE THEY? Cont....

different forms are usually more marked. Crawford, et al, has suggested that the hairy dwarf forms are subservient creatures trained to retrieve and collect samples for some higher ufonaut type, and has noted that they display an intelligence approximately equivalent to that of a chimpanzee. Such possibilities are extremely interesting when one reviews the extraordinary activities of small hairy ball like creatures and other possibly controlled creatures (including birds: see later) that featured prominently in the now celebrated UFO wave of 1975 over Puerto Rico. The fact that some of these entities represent living creatures but behave like robots need not surprise us, for advanced biomedical knowledge and hybridization techniques (such as the complex technology underlying the UFO phenomenon allegedly possesses) could result in organic engineering on a large scale. Such creations would serve several purposes, in addition to undertaking pre-programmed tasks. These purposes might include a desire at some higher level to 'confuse' the picture so far as man's awareness of ufonaut activity is concerned, or a desire to render perhaps originally bizarre or frightening (to us) life forms more acceptable to human eyes, or a desire to camouflage their 'probes' along lines so familiar to the average man that he would usually take but scant notice of them as they proceed with their appointed tasks surreptitiously. All such possibilities are alarming, especially when it is realised that abundant reports support their probability.

The third alternative enters the realms of paraphysics, and calls for the intelligent manipulation of energies so complex as to be beyond our present understanding. Nonetheless, some reports seemingly relate to just such activities (e.g. two small entities seen at Sierra Chica, near Olavarria, Argentina, in June, 1968, had transparent legs, and seemed to be but partly 'finished', while a year later a huge figure that approached a car south west of Salt Lake City, Utah, only became visible when the cars headlights were turned off. Other reports exist which describe weird effects whereby only the top halves of entities were visible). Reports in this category seem to support the ideas of holographs advocated by Bowen and others.

The diversity of ufonauts, therefore, may be due to several causes, that not all have the same origins, that some are robotic or subservient types, and that some occasionally employ a holograph-like method of entering into our consciousness. A multiplicity of origins and forms also finds support from the 'evidence' of the Betty Hill star map (which was reconstructed by Marjorie Fish and, more recently in a different way, by Charles Atterberg) that indicated allegedly regular trade and communication routes between quite a large number of interstellar worlds (presumably planets). The ingredients for diversity are thus emerging from many directions - a diversity of ufonauts, a diversity of origins, and a diversity of activities once arriving here.

The earlier references to programmed birds leads us to the final collection of ufonauts or to creatures frequently associated with UFOs. These are rather a mixed lot of entities, and are essentially even more weird than the 'conventional' ufonauts.

The aforementioned birds have been sighted not only in Puerto Rico, but also in the Ohio valley of America, and in New Zealand. The Puerto Rican birds were apparently responding to unearthly 'music' heard by witnesses to be emanating from remote inland regions, over or near to which many UFOs have been sighted. The activities of the birds were, however, somewhat enigmatic, and it may well be that they were merely well camouflaged reconnaissance contrivances. Significantly, they appeared in areas that shortly afterwards experienced chronic animal mutilations of a particularly selective and expert kind, and, as with the UFOs, suddenly ceased their activities when the animal mutilations abruptly ended. All three phenomena - i.e., UFOs, animal mutilations and 'birds'

UFONAUTS: WHO AND WHAT ARE THEY? Cont....

commenced and ceased almost simmoultaneously with one another. Interestingly all the birds were excessively large. Could it be that they contained small ufonauts acting as observers or site selectors? If so, then the birds were merely camouflaged mechanical constructions of advanced type, and ideal for their purposes.

A rather similar interpretation is possible with regard to the flying men, or bird men, recorded in various areas from time to time i.e., humanoid forms with wings. The best documented form is the celebrated "Mothman" of the Ohio valley. Although apparently capable of folding its wings when on the ground, Mothman in flight does not move its wings as a bird would do, but keeps them outstertched like an aeroplane. Even more astonishing is the fact, frequently attested to by terrified witnesses, that Mothman can keep pace with a car at speeds of at least 100mph. Also, like the so-called 'birds' discussed above, Mothman sightings coincided with an intense local UFO wave during 1966 and 1967 over that region of America, with the sightings ending when the UFO activity ceased. Whatever Mothman is, it is certainly <u>not</u> of terrestrial origin.

Why so many entities should be visiting the Earth at this point in time is a question not only most intriguing, but also of the greatest importance to us. There is obviously a reason. What is it? One cannot satisfactorily answer that question, but can direct attention to the earthly ufonaut activities that must provide at least some clues as to the reasons for their visits, and, at the same time, recall that certain ufonauts seem to be sophisticated organic robots or specially bred forms, suggestive of bio-engineering. A review of a large percentage of ufonaut activities here on Earth shows that they are much preoccupied with collecting samples of soil, water, plants and animals of every phylum and type. They also appear on occasion to collect sample human beings. The apparently real connection between UFOs and the spasmodic skyfalls of blood-like fluids, fleshy substances and hordes of various different animal types (usually invertabrates or lowly vertabrate forms) lends further support for the contention that they are involved in a heavy programme concerning life and the propogation of life and even perhaps the development of new life forms or the hybridization of several existing life forms - not necessarily all from <u>this</u> planet. The Villas Boas case, in which the gentleman of that name was forced to procreate with an alien female, would support this interpretation.

But if so many of these diverse ufonauts are engaged in bio-medical activities, but are, as we have suggested, from different worlds in regular communication with one another, are they carrying out some gigantic farming programme, as Keel has discussed, involving many worlds astronomical distances apart, or are they in alliance with one another in an attempt to colonize the solar system, or at least those planets in it suitable for advanced life forms? Did they, in fact, have a hand in originally planting life on Earth millions of years ago, or have they been involved in man's evolution, as some have advocated, and are continuing to take an interest in him, visiting Earth regularly to see "how he is getting on"? Quite obviously, not all of these activities can be properly monitored by us, even if we assume that all are actually occurring, but the information now accumulating does indicate that something is happening along the lines so roughly indicated, and that the ufonauts are directly connected with it. But whether they, or some higher intelligence directing them, is in overall control is a matter we can presently only speculate upon. Just possibly it might be better <u>not</u> to know.

J. B. Delair.
Contact (UK).

NEWSLETTERS, MAGAZINES AND JOURNALS.

What follows is a review of publications currently produced by groups within the Northern UFO Network plus the three national magazines. We hope that the list is complete but if your groups publication is not included we would be pleased to hear from you. All publications are available from the groups for cash or exchange, except where otherwise stated.

FLYING SAUCER REVIEW (Independent)
An excellent publication which is probably familiar to all readers, this is a fully printed international journal of about 32 pages. It concentrates mainly upon detailed sighting reports though also includes several opinionated articles and a round up of UFO news from other parts of the world. Despite recent problems with publication dates, it is now almost back on schedule and is certainly the best UFO journal I have encountered.

BUFORA JOURNAL (British UFO Research Association)
In an effort to save money for other publications BUFORA have recently cut both the size and the paper quality of their journal. No longer on glossy paper and now only sixteen pages long it has nevertheless managed to remain of a high quality. The appearance, while admittedly not as impressive, is still very professional and the content has stayed at the same high level. Being a group journal it still concentrates on group news and events, but manages to publish many interesting articles and detailed sighting summaries. Unfortunately available to members only, (and this makes it expensive at £5 subscription for six issues) or by exchange.

AWARENESS (Contact U.K.)
Contact, with "Awareness", have managed to produce a group journal with a difference. The duplicated magazine keeps group news down to a bare minimum so as to allow as much space as possible for some very interesting articles. Sightings as such are not included but there are some excellent items on specific cases or groups of cases. Despite one or two well produced drawings the print quality as a whole leaves something to be desired. However, this was more than compensated for by the content quality.

IRISH UFO NEWS (BUFORA Northern Ireland)
BUFORA have a developing branch in Northern Ireland and in January, 1976, the branch decided to publish a magazine entitled "Irish UFO News". This is now scheduled as a twice yearly publication and is a very readable resume of the current Irish UFO scene. It is well produced by a spirit duplicator and consists of a considerable weight of material, chiefly sighting summaries and some interesting general articles. Of more significance the latest July, 1976 issue introduced an innovation with supplements, available free to other organisations and at cost to others. These are photocopies of newspaper articles relevant to current events and transcripts of interviews. "Irish UFO News" is available to NUFON associates at the special rate of 50 pence per annum and is a highly creditable introduction to the ufology of this once neglected country.

MUFORA LINK (Manchester UFO Research Association)
This is another fairly new publication (its first issue appeared in March, 1976) but has started very well. Printed on four sides of A4 paper it is intended mainly for group members, but is of interest to most ufologists. It contains two fairly lengthy articles usually of a high standard and is intended to "fill a gap...between Flying Saucer Review and NUFON News" i.e., to produce a high content quality magazine at low price. In this MUFORA have definitely been successful. It contains no sighting reports or group news, but does allow for comments, findings and general articles primarily from group members (though persons outside the group are invited to contribute). It is published periodically and circulation is strictly limited, no form of subscription exists. All in all a very worthwhile publication that has established itself very quickly.

NEWSLETTERS, MAGAZINES AND JOURNALS Cont....

PROTEUS (UFO Studies Information Service)
It is difficult to review this publication of UFOSIS, the Birmingham group, as only one issue has been produced to date. This was an expensively photocopied production, which did, of course, considerably enhance its presentation. The first issue was chiefly of interest to UFOSIS members, although report summaries were included. However, future plans are to make it of more general interest and the introduction os "Canadascan" - a survey of canadian ufology by Gary Lanham, the UFOSIS representative in that country - should greatly add to its appeal.

SDRUFORA MAGAZINE (Sheffield UFO Research Association)
As I have seen only the first copy of this magazine so far it is perhaps unfair to review it here, as the first copy of most publications usually only gives a vague idea as to how the magazine will develop once it is established. However, for a first attempt the Sheffield group have made a fairly good job of it. Only 7 pages long, it nevertheless has a cover drawing and an inside illustration, which give a good initial impression. It is very much a group publication concentrating on group information and local sightings with a very 'chatty' format, but this is not necessarily a bad thing. Definitely SDRUFORA have the beginnings of an interesting magazine here.

SKYLINK (Wirral UFO Society)
Local group publications have a habit of being short lived. Shorter even than the lifespan of a group - which in some cases is but a few months. WUFOS have produced "Skylink" now since January, 1973 and kept it to its bi-monthly schedule almost without problems. It is typical of how a magazine aimed at catering for group members should be. It always gives ample space to its readership for expounding their opinions and is up to date with world UFO news, book reviews and local sighting summaries. It is not a connoisseurs publication, but it does not aim to be. It keeps the WUFOS members happy and informed and so cannot be called other than successful.

SPUR (Space, Phenomena and Ufology Research Group)
Though strictly speaking not a UFO orientated publication (it deals about half and half with ufology and space travel/research) this is nevertheless a most interesting publication. Despite its small size (only 8 sides of A5 paper) it is available on the open market through the Athena Book Shop in London and this is an achievement to make many groups envious. The print quality is poor in places but the content is well laid out and the overall impression is good. It is hampered slightly by the small page size, which together with the fact that the paper can only be printed on one side limits the content somewhat, but it is well worth reading.

UFO RESEARCH REVIEW (Nottingham UFO Investigation Society)
It is rare to find a local group publication of the tenor of "UFO Research Review". NUFOIS are extremely fortunate in having a number of scientifically experienced personnel and this is reflected in this quarterly medium. Articles of an unusually developed scientific standing are provided in a good mix of content. It is obviously aimed at a particular market - the scientific ufologist. It is certainly a success in reaching this market and in this way tends to cross the boundary of a local publication. The quality of content is generally of a nature that would be of interest to British ufologists as a whole. That must be rated an achievement.

Publications reviewed by Jenny Randles (MUFORA) and Ken Green (WUFOS).

ANNOUNCEMENT.

BUFORA announce a National UFO Research Conference at the Centre Hotel, New Street, Birmingham on November 5, 6& 7, 1976. Speakers include Ted Bloecher, J. B. Delair, P. Rogerson and several others. Tickets £6 (£5 to BUFORA members) available from Miss Jenny Randles, 23, Sunningdale Drive, Irlam,Greater Manchester M30 6NJ.

THE BELFAST PSYCHIC CONTACTEE CASE.

Investigation by M. Johnston and J. Hind of BUFORA (N. Ireland).

1) INTRODUCTION.

The witness is a married woman with three children. She lives in a small, neat, modern, two up-two down, semi-detached house in the Andersonstown district of Belfast. It is an area of every day violence and high sectarian pressure. She is religious, in an unorthodox way, and seemed quite well educated. In early November, 1975 she contacted Miles Johnston after a television appearance by him on 4th November. A preliminary interview was held on 8th November and a second, taped interview was held on 28th April, 1976. The tape of the second interview has been analysed by a BUFORA psychologist (see below).

2) THE INTERVIEWS.

Throughout the interviews the witness spoke with conviction and the investigators were given the impression that she believed what she said to be true. It seemed to them that she was describing "a psychic experience rather than a real, physical experience".
The witness claims to have been aboard alien spacecraft (though she calls them"my space friends" not aliens) many times, she is unable to say how many. The investigators attempted to obtain a chronological account of her visits but, while she was ostensibly describing her first trip she seemed to stray into events that occurred on future trips. She claims that her first UFO experience happened in 1969 or 70. One night while she was in bed she saw a light dancing on her child's toy panda. It was about an hour later that she was actually taken aboard the spacecraft "Just as if I were lifted from this body into a spiritual body....I was then in, not another world, but a spacecraft". She described the interior of the craft as like a large house or mansion, but all attempts to get a detailed description failed. It was white with 'circular' furniture and divided into lots of very spacious rooms. On the first trip she was shown around the craft, she had no specific guide but each entity knew her and explained the things she was seeing to her, she just wandered around. One room contained 'dials and instruments' and another a kitchen, where she was shown some cooking methods that she has since tried with success. She also saw a'porthole', which was on a verticle surface and looking out of it gave the impression that one was moving, slowly at ground level past objects and buildings. She persists in saying however, that the craft was flying.

3) THE CONTACTEE ASPECT.

The entities were described as being like 'perfect human beings'. They dress in casual, bright clothes, are of all ages and have shoulder length hair (both male and female) of varying colours. They are all described in the same general form although she says that they all have different planets of origin. As far as could be determined they spoke to her vocally in 'unaccented english'. Much of what they say involves predictions for the future (including another country, possibly Canada, joining the EEC in 1977 or 8 and that Princess Anne will have twins) and revelations of a personal nature about her and her husband.

4) THEIR MESSAGE.

As with many contactee cases there is a quasi-religious message. Briefly put it is "We progress by death through many 'worlds' each becoming....more perfect until we reach perfection (which has been reached by her alien contacts). The Earth itself is populated with the....'rejects' from the higher worlds, put here as a second chance. God exists as a concept, the devil does not exist and the bible should not be taken literally. The aliens work to help us in two ways; their own kind mingle with earthmen, already she claims there are thousands of them in key positions....and they work through selected of us (she is one)". As with many contactees she claims to have been given a mission, but unlike most, she is unwilling to carry it out. The aliens have proposed a solution for the ending of bloodshed in Northern Ireland and want her to write a book about it, but she is reluctant to do so for fear of reprisals. She also claims to be protected by the aliens. To quote from the tape "They

THE BELFAST PSYCHIC CONTACTEE CASE Cont....

said that they would protect me....and I can tell you, people who have done anything against me....worse has happened to them. I am very frightened of this". The investigators found the idea of 'perfect' beings possessing a viscious streak inconsistent.

5) TECHNICAL INFORMATION.

Several passages from the interview are interesting technically. One of these regards the origins of the aliens.

Q. Where do they come from?
A. Various planets.
Q. Could you get us some of the names of the stars?
A. They don't come from other stars they come from planets that we haven't discovered yet.
Q. Planets in our own system?
A. I'm not sure what you mean. Some of them come from the dark side of the moon....They tried to contact one of the astronauts orbiting the moon. But they (the astronauts) are so wrapped up in their technology from Earth that they have blinded themselves.

She went on to say that the aliens did not require spacesuits on the moon: "You don't need them....because if you were to go to the moon they would make you fit to live there".

6) PSYCHOLOGISTS REPORT.

The psychologist was concerned with whether the witness had or had not had contact with extra-terrestrial intelligences and not with the viability of her claims. He found several points to be relevant: she was not at all puzzled by her experiences, and was very certain about everything; although she said she was not religious, her message from the aliens certainly was and the enthusiasm with which she put it across suggests that she is convinced herself that what she is saying is the truth; whenever the investigator attempts to gain any hard, factual data from her, she becomes evasive and slightly aggressive (by criticising the investigator). His conclusions were that the witness believes what she is saying, but the probability is that she has built up the story herself, possibly from one or two genuine UFO sightings. While he cannot be certain without further extensive research, he is personally of the opinion that "she is not a bona fide contactee".

8) EVALUATION.

Mainly due to the lack of 'hard' evidence the investigators were also of the opinion that there was no physical reality to this contact. All attempts to apply physical criteria in the questionning resulted in unsatisfactory answers. Having decided this, the question is reduced to whether she was in psychic contact with an intelligent non-earth entity (entities). One factor to be considered here is that of the inconsistencies in the technical data. It is simply not possible to live on the moon without life support equipment (unless we consider other planes of existence etc., but we are on dangerous ground here - we are in an area where reality may not be too closely defined). Another factor is that the witness did not appear to be lying. Jenny Randles has advanced a theory which might take both of these factors into account: it is that this (and other) witness(es) is in contact with alien intelligences, but that these intelligences are, for reasons known only to themselves, not telling a consistent or truthful story to the contactees. The remaining possibilities, therefore, are that:

i) The witness is, probably unknown to herself, not telling the truth.
ii) She is telling the truth as it is told to her by the other intelligences, who are lying.
iii)Both the witness and the aliens are telling the truth, but that we and/or her are interpreting it incorrectly.

At this stage the investigators consider the first probability to be the most likely.

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